

***** T O P S E C R E T *****S COPY

OP IMMEDIATE
DE WTE #0329 0170305
O 170255Z JAN 73
FM THE SITUATION ROOM
TO USLO PEKING

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY WH40200

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TO AMBASSADOR BRUCE
FROM BRENT SCOWCROFT

I APPRECIATE YOUR DILEMMA OVER NICK PLATT. WE ARE NOT YET IN THE POSITION TO STATE DEFINITELY THAT THE NSC POSITION WILL BE WORKABLE, BUT THE PROSPECTS AT THIS POINT LOOK EXCEEDINGLY GOOD.

I THINK, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD BE PLAYING THE ODDS PROPERLY IF NICK CAME BACK TO WASHINGTON. SHOULD THE NSC POSITION NOT PROVE FEASIBLE, HE CAN HAVE ANY OF THE STATE OPTIONS PRESENTED TO HIM AND IF HE SHOULD CHOOSE TOKYO IT WOULD OF COURSE CAUSE SOME INCONVENIENCE WERE HE TO HAVE ALREADY DEPARTED FOR WASHINGTON. I DO BELIEVE THAT RISK IS WELL WORTH RUNNING, HOWEVER, AND THAT WOULD THEREFORE BE MY RECOMMENDATION.

INCIDENTALLY, THE TIMING ON THE NSC POSITION IS NOT SO URGENT AS TO PREVENT NICK FROM MAKING A LEISURELY TRIP BACK AND TAKING WHATEVER LEAVE HE MIGHT DESIRE.

WARM REGARDS.

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State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

RODMAN

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